

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-30 and 81-113 are pending in the present application. Claims 2-11, 13-30, 85, 87-91 and 93 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1, 12, 81, 86, 92 and 105 have been amended. Reexamination and reconsideration of Claims 1, 12, 81-84, 86, 92 and 94-113, as amended, are respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 12, 81-84, 86, 92, 94-113 as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103 over U.S. 3,211,354 to Dugard (hereinafter "the '354 reference") in view of U.S. 5,395,046 to Knobbe (hereinafter "the '046 reference.") Claims 1, 12, 81, 92 and 105 have been amended. This rejection has been respectfully traversed with respect to claims 1, 12, 81-84, 86, 92, 94-113, as amended.

Fig. 2 of the present application shows a heater cartridge 16, which has a channel 36 formed between the tip 38 and the pipe 28. Please see lines 4, 5 of [0038] of the specification. Once the desoldering tool is in operation, the power from the power line 34 may be provided to the heater cartridge 16 for heating the solder. See lines 3, 4 of [0039]. For instance, a portion of the pipe 28 may be surrounded by a heater 60 to conduct heat to the tip 38 to melt the solder to a liquid state and retrieve the melted solder through the channel 36 within the tip. Please see last three lines of page 6 of the specification. Fig. 1 shows the heater cartridge 16 connecting the tip 38 and a transition section 19, which in turn connects with a solder collection storage cavity 20 of a first handle 12. As Fig. 2 shows, the heater 60 of the heater cartridge 16 is located between the tip 38 and a storage 14. The heater 60 heats a channel 36 to maintain the liquid state of the solder as it passes the channel 36.

Claim 1 has been amended to include a heating element which is "disposed between the tip and the storage." In contrast, the device of the '354 reference as shown in its Fig. 1 does not show a heating element located between the tip and the storage. Instead, its heating elements 35, 36, 37 are located along the longitudinal side of the storage and are all away from the tip. In other words, the heating elements 35, 36, 37 are on the opposite side of a seal 16 between a head 12 and a housing 10, i.e., not "between the tip and the storage" as required by claim 1. There is nothing to suggest in

the '354 reference that the location of these heating elements 35, 36, 37 be anywhere but where they are in Fig. 1. The '046 reference has been cited in connection with a removable pistol type handle to control the fluid flow (Fig. 4, item 77) and does not overcome the deficiencies of the '354 reference. The '354 reference and the '046 reference, singly or in combination, clearly fail to show or suggest the soldering iron as claimed in claim 1, as amended.

Claim 12 has been amended to include a storage as well as a heater which is "disposed between the tip and the storage." Claim 81 has been amended to include a heater "disposed between the desoldering tip and the storage, and surrounding at least a portion of the desoldering channel." Claim 86 has been amended to include a heater which surrounds "at least a portion of the solder suction channel between the tip and the storage." Similarly, in claim 92, as amended, a heater is claimed which is "disposed between the tip and the storage." Claim 105 has been amended to include "a heater disposed between the pointed end of the desoldering tip and the desoldering collection storage cartridge cavity and surrounding at least a portion of the desoldering channel." As discussed above with respect to claim 1, the '354 reference does not disclose or suggest a heater which is located between the tip and the storage. Further, as stated, the '046 reference does not make up for the deficiencies of the '354 reference. Therefore, claims 12, 81, 86, 92 and 105, as amended, are not disclosed or suggested by the '354 reference and the '046 reference, singly or in combination.

Claims 98-104 depend from claim 1; claims 82-84 depend from claim 81; claims 94-97 depend from claim 92; and claims 106-113 depend from claim 105 and these dependent claims are allowable for the same reasons as stated above for their respective independent claims. It is respectfully requested that the outstanding rejection over 35 U.S.C. 103 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, the claims, as amended, particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention and are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the claims, as amended, are respectfully requested and allowance at an early date is solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may

Serial No.: 10/816,231

PATENT
Atty Docket No.: 47434-00057

be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 07-1853 (order No. 47434.57.)

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 17, 2006



Hisako Muramatsu
Registration No.34,955

SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY L.L.P.
555 South Flower Street, Suite 3100
Los Angeles, California 90071-2300
Telephone: (213) 624-2500
Facsimile : (213) 623-4581